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SOURCE Argentinisches Tageblatt.SATELLITES FALL SHORT OF OIL QUOTA

Vienna, 23 February 1951 -- Satellites of the USSR did not fulfill their quota of petroleum deliveries to the Soviet Union.

Rumania, the USSR's largest petroleum source, reported officially that 1950 production amounted to 4,750,000 tons, or 1.8 percent less than the planned quota.

Hungary achieved 75 percent of her quota, but no figures are given. Production for 1946 amounted to approximately 684,000 tons.

The Zistersdorf oil wells in the Soviet sector of Austria doubled their 1945 output and 60 percent of Austria's entire oil production goes to countries of the Eastern bloc. In 1950, production reached nearly 1 1/2 million tons.

The USSR's own petroleum production in 1950 totaled approximately 37 million tons.

Observers claim that the Korean adventure has robbed Communist China of practically her entire petroleum reserves, causing a serious shortage.

Experts in Bucharest have frequently expressed the opinion that the Soviet Union had hoped for a speedier recovery of Rumanian oil fields from damages sustained during World War II. It is believed that it will take the Communists at least 2 more years to produce 7 million tons annually, as they did before the war.

Two factors are held to be responsible for the slowing down of the reconstruction program: a lack of Western experts and the inability of the USSR to supply suitable materials. Because of her limited production, Rumania is obliged to ration domestic oil consumption so that she may meet the Soviet export quota of 95 percent of her entire oil output.

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Communist circles in Rumania and other Satellite states admit incompetence on the part of the various administrations. Horatiu Lancu, Rumania's Deputy Minister for Oil and Mining, stated in an address on 4 January that reconstruction of the Baicoi and Tintea oil fields failed because the engineers were incompetent. Lancu indicated, however, that rich new oil wells would soon be operated in Oltenia, Transylvania, Marmaros, and Moldova.

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